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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from the Schweinrich - Gentzrode Training Area

633975

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 26 March to 10 April 1954

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE PREPARED [REDACTED] 25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 6 April 1954, troops assembled in Forest Sections Nos 103 in Neuglienicke, No 80 in Frankendorf, Nos 21 and 22 in Eggersdorf, No 67 in Rottstiel and No 88 in Rheinsberg-Glienicke. All roads and approaches between the assembly areas and the Schweinrich troop training grounds were blocked by sentries. The troops advanced during the night of 6 April, with the lights of the vehicles dimmed with cloth. At noon on 7 April, the troops started a practice attack toward the northwest from the Neuglienicke-Forest Section No 135 - Frankendorf-Forest Section No 177 line. The attack was opened by firing with practice ammunition which lasted until 1 p.m. Troops subsequently advanced under tank support. After 1 p.m., MiG-15s engaged in the attack. Vehicles seen passing through Neuglienicke during the exercise included 3 T-34 tanks [REDACTED] 4 JSU-122s, 2 salvage tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers with twin-barrel machine guns, 23 trucks occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 1 jeep, 2 sidecar motorcycles and 10 guns, presumably of 76.2 mm, coupled to trucks. Another column arrived in the training area from the direction of Basdorf [REDACTED] 33 tanks, 7 ar- 25X1

25X1 armored personnel carriers, 4 JSU-122s, 4 JSU-152s, 6 trucks towing AA guns, 18 trucks 25X1 occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 1 sedan, 2 jeeps and 4 side- 25X1 car motorcycles. [REDACTED] The following troops and materiel 25X1 arrived in the Schweinrich section of the training grounds at about 4:30 p.m.: 25X1 20 T-34 tanks including [REDACTED] 10 JS tanks [REDACTED] 10 JSU-122s: 10 25X1 JSU-152s; 10 trucks towing 85-mm AT guns [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] 10 AT guns, presumably of 45 mm, coupled to trucks [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] 1 SP gun; 10 trucks towing 37-mm AA guns; 40 trucks [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] with troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets; 12 armored personnel 25X1 carriers; 12 BA-64s; 20 sidecar motorcycles; 12 jeeps including [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] sedans [REDACTED] with a high-eche- 25X1 lon headquarters; jeep [REDACTED] 2 armored half-track vehicles with four-barreled 25X1 AA guns, and 1 sidecar motorcycle. The following other units arrived in the Neu- 25X1 glienicke section from the direction of Steinberge at about 5:45 p.m. on 7 April: 25X1 JS tanks [REDACTED] 10 T-34 tanks 25X1 [REDACTED] 36 trucks towing 160-mm mortars [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] 10 JSU-122s; 10 JSU-152s; 3 jeeps [REDACTED] 25X1 and trucks [REDACTED] 25X1 [REDACTED] 25X1 on 10 April, an engineer unit with 40 trucks loaded with 25X1 pontoons, 2 assault boats and bridge building equipment arrived at Tornow Lake from

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25X1 the direction of Neuruppin. Another column of jeep [] and 14 trucks [] 25X1
 25X1 [] loaded with pontoons and an assault boat followed [] 25X1
 25X1 The troops constructed a pontoon bridge from Floesser Grund to Tornow peninsula.
 25X1 [] 1

[] 2. During the night of 27 March, tanks moved along roads in the woods toward Stein-
 25X1 berge from the direction of Katerbow and a large number of trucks moved along
 25X1 Grafendamm toward the east. The vehicles had dimmed headlights []
 25X1 [] At about 4 p.m. on 29 March, T-34 tanks []
 25X1 another T-34 tank [] drove from the training grounds to the parking
 25X1 lot along the Neuruppin - Katerbow road. At about 4:30 p.m. on 2 April, trucks
 25X1 [] moved from the direction of Neu-
 25X1 ruppin toward Katerbow. []

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25X1 From 26 March to 3 April, tank firing at fixed targets was daily practiced at
 25X1 Gentzrode training grounds. T-34 tanks [] No
 25X1 tank firing was noticed after 4 April. Up to about 4 p.m. on 5 April, tanks
 25X1 and trucks assembled at the training grounds east of the Neuruppin-Steinberge
 25X1 road. Observed were a total of 42 tanks including T-34 tanks []
 25X1 and about 124 trucks. The area was cordoned off by sentries. []

25X1 []
 The column subsequently left the assembly area toward a northerly direction. On
 6 April, Forest Sections Nos 21, 23, 24 and 25 were cordoned off by sentries.
 Tents and tanks were observed there. The tanks were dug in. 1

25X1 1. [] Comment. It is believed that the 12th Gds Tank Div conducted a division
 25X1 exercise in the area of Wittstock troop training grounds from 5 to at least 10
 25X1 April, with the exercise having apparently been conducted from southeast to
 25X1 northwest. [] the division was
 25X1 reinforced by units of the 2d Light Arty Brig (US) which, according to other in-
 25X1 formation, had transferred from Doeberitz to Netzeband in two shipments on 4 April.
 25X1 [] Also it is believed that engineer units of the 18th (?)
 25X1 Engr Bn of the 1st Mech Div participated. These units transferred to Neuruppin
 25X1 [] on 8 April. [] This assump-
 25X1 tion is supported [] The present report further indicates
 25X1 that, on 10 April, still other engineer units were engaged in exercises at Tornow
 25X1 lake. [] these troops belonged to the 88th
 25X1 Engr Regt (?) of the Second Gds Mech Army.

25X1 2. [] Comment. As usual, units of the 12th Gds Tank Div conducted tank firing in
 the area of Gentzrode garrison training grounds up to early April.

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